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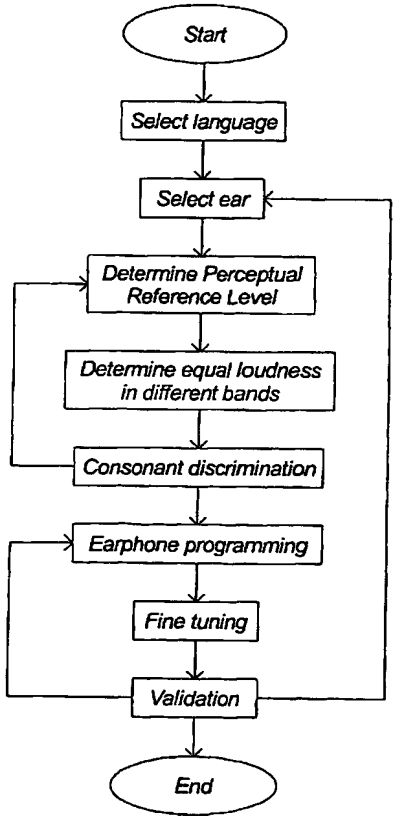
(54) Title: METHOD OF FITTING PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICE TO A HEARING IMPAIRED USER



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of adapting signal processing characteristics of a portable communication device to a hearing impaired user, comprising the steps of determining a perceptual reference level (PRL) of a first stimuli signal (FSS) in a reference frequency band (RFB) by presenting said first stimuli signal (FSS) to said hearing impaired user, and obtaining perceptual judgements of a loudness of said first stimuli signal (FSS) from said hearing impaired user, and determining said perceptual reference level (PRL) of a second stimuli signal (SSS) in a further frequency band (FFB) by presenting said second stimuli signal (SSS) to said hearing impaired user, and requesting said hearing impaired user to compare a loudness of said second stimuli signal (SSS) with said loudness of said first stimuli signal (FSS). The present invention further relates to a method of adapting signal processing characteristics of a portable communication device to a hearing impaired user, comprising the steps of evaluating a hearing impairment of said hearing impaired user by presenting at least one stimuli signal (SS) to said hearing impaired user, and obtaining perceptual judgements of a predetermined attribute to said at least one stimuli signal (SS) from said hearing impaired user, and adjusting said signal processing parameters of said portable communication device according to said perceptual judgements of said at least one stimuli signal (SS); whereby said at least one stimuli signal (SS) comprises a set of test words, said test words each having a spectral energy content of which the effective part is within one restricted frequency band selected from a set of restricted frequency bands.

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